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CLAIMS

1.   A method for managing the power consumption of a battery powered radio device, the method comprising:

5   o   performing (104) a radio function according to a first operating mode;

o   monitoring (106) the battery capacity; and

o   where the battery capacity is less than a pre-determined amount, maintaining (112) the radio function according to a second operating mode in place of the first operating mode, which second operating

10   mode has a reduced rate of power consumption in relation to the radio function compared to the first operating mode.

2.   A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second operating mode comprises receiving a radio signal by means of polling.

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3.   A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second operating mode comprises sending a request radio signal and subsequently receiving an associated response radio signal.

20   4.   A system comprising a first radio device which is battery powered and is operable according to the method of any of claims 1 to 3 and a second radio device, the devices being operable to communicate by means of radio signals.

5.   A battery powered radio device operable according to the method of

25   claim 2, wherein the radio function is associated with determining the location
· of the device.

6.   A battery powered radio device according to claim 5, wherein the battery powered radio device is a cordless telephone.

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7.   A battery powered radio device according to claim 5, wherein the battery powered radio device is a remote control handset.

8.   A battery powered radio device operating according to the method of claim 2 or 3, wherein the radio function is associated with receipt of data.

9.   A battery powered radio device according to claim 8, wherein the battery powered radio device is a mobile telephone.

10.   A battery powered radio device according to claim 9, wherein the mobile telephone is a GSM telephone operable to receive an SMS message.

11.   A record carrier comprising software operable to carry out the method of any of claims 1 to 3.

12.   A software utility configured for carrying out the method steps as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3.

13.   A battery powered radio device including a data processor, said data processor being directed in its operations by a software utility as claimed in claim 12.